

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment the specification has been amended to better to include topic headings and otherwise better conform to U.S. practice, and claims 1, 2 and 3 have been amended to better define the intended subject matter. Entry is requested.

In the outstanding Office Action the examiner has rejected claim 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kauhaniemi et al. in view of Shlyakhtichman et al. The inventors disagree!

Kauhaniemi et al. disclose a surface-mounted attachment means 10 having a contact part 11 for the seizing head of an insertion machine, a joining surface 13 for attachment to a printed circuit board, and a preformed point of attachment, such as a groove or protrusion, for attaching an EMC shield 18 and other mechanical components to a printed circuit board 14.

The examiner states that Kauhaniemi et al. disclose many of the elements defined in claim 1 of the present application, but admits that there is no disclosure of an aperture for receiving a slug and a clip member arranged to abut the slug received by the aperture.

The examiner states that Shlyakhtichman et al. disclose the use of a shield assembly with spring fingers that receive attachment means on the inner portion of the fingers, thus creating an aperture inside. The examiner asserts that it would be obvious to use the spring fingers of Shlyakhtichman et al. on the metallic shield of Kauhaniemi et al.

Shlyakhtichman et al. disclose a shield component which includes a frame and push fit lid. The frame 12 is attached to a PCB using traces T. Apertures 28 are provided in the side wall of the frame 12 to receive sprung fingers 58A of the lid member 14. Accordingly, Shlyakhtichman et al. disclose a first component fixed to a PCB and having apertures for receiving clip members provided on a second component that is to be releasably connected to the PCB by way of the first component.

In contrast, claim 1 of the present application requires that a first component (a slug) is secured to the PCB and that an aperture provided in a second component receives the first component to releasably secure the second component to the PCB. There is nothing in the disclosure of Shlyakhtichman et al. to suggest the use of an aperture in a component to receive a slug mounted on a PCB.

Kauhaniemi et al. disclose the use of surface mounted attachment means 10 to engage resilient side portions 19 of a shield component 18. The attachment means 10 may be considered slugs, and the side portions 19 of the shield 18 may be considered resilient chips, but no apertures are provided in the shield 18 to receive the attachment means 10. Indeed, as the examiner notes, the bend 20 in the side portion 19 of the shield 18 engages with a groove 16 in the attachment means 10. In the same way, the sprung fingers 58A of the lid member 14 of Shlyakhtichman et al. engage with the apertures 28 in the side wall of the frame 12. The disclosures of Shlyakhtichman et al. and Kauhaniemi et

al., therefore, essentially relate to a common solution, and their
combination would not be obvious.

Favorable reevaluation is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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